

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COLOMB 01596 270338 Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-13 AF-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 RSR-01 /138 W

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R 261130 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9661

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEHZASSY LONDON

KESHR/ AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 146

USMISSION USUN

CINCPAC

COMIDEASTFOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1596

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, CE, US

SUBJ: LIMITED SRI LANKA REACTION TO REPORTS OF COMMISSIONING
OF DIEGO GARCIA

REF DELHI 7329

1. REACTION IN SRI LANKA THUS FAR TO DIEGO GARCIA COMMISSION-
ING HAS BEEN CONFINED TO " TIMES OF CEYLON". JUNE 23 EDITION
CARRIED HEADLINE ARTICLE CITING " MUCH CONCERN IN OFFICAL
CIRCLES" OVER " REPORTS FROM NEW YORK" THAT UNITED STATES HAS
OPENED COMMUNICATION STATION ON DIEGO GARCIA. PAPER QUOTED
UNNAMED " POLITICAL CIRCLES" AS EXPRESSING SURPRISE AT US ACTION
AND BELIEF THAT PM WOULD RAISE ISSUE AT ALGIERS NON- ALIGNED
SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN SEPT. " TIMES OF CEYLON" EDITORIAL JUNE 25
DESCRIBED INSTALLATION AS " MILITARY BASE... INDICATIVE OF A
CYNICAL CONTEMPT FOR WORLD OPINION" AND " A SLAP IN THE FACE
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OF ALL PEACE- LOVING PEOPLES". PAPER NOTED INDIAN PRESS FLURRY AND URGED MRS B " TO VEHEMENTLY PROTEST". IT QUOTED AT LENGTH MRS GANDHI' S SPEECH IN COLOMBO IN MARCH IN WHICH INDIAN PM DISMISSED " POWER VACUUM THEORY", WHICH PAPER CLAIMED UNITED STATES WAS USING TO JUSTIFY INDIAN OCEAN PRESENCE.

2. DIEGO GARCIA HAS REMAINED SOLE CAMPAIGN OF " TIMES OF CEYLON", WHICH NO PICK- UP BY OTHER ENGLISH LANGUAGE OR VERNACULAR PRESS. SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO GSL REACTION, AND MRS. B MADE NO PREFERENCE TO ISSUE IN ANY OF SEVERAL SPEECHES DELIVERED OVER WEEK- END.

3. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO QUERIES ABOUT DIEGO GARCIA, BUT IF QUESTION IS RAISED WE TOO SHALL BE GUIDED BY STATE 192354 OF 21 OCT 1972.

VAN HOLLEN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COLOMB01596
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
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Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Subject: LIMITED SRI LANKA REACTION TO REPORTS OF COMMISSIONING OF DIEGO GARCIA REF DELHI 7329
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, CE, US
To: AMEHZASSY LONDON
CANBERRA
CINCPAC
DACC
ISLAMABAD
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC

TEHRAN
USUN

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005